OUTGOING MESSAGE COMINT Approved For Release 2000/08/31 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100080046-0

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

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MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

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TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR FAZIO,

STATE RCI//OPERATIONS CENTER MR FRY, NMCC//ATTENTION

CIA REP, TREASURY DEPT//INFO FOR 25X1A9a

WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS

INVOLVED

ITEM NO: (1)

PTPL TZUDUA LE : STAC

SUBJECT: NEW ZEALAND PRIME MINISTER DIES

REF

::FBIS 45, 311140Z AUG 74, UNCLAS

PRIME MINISTER KIRK'S SUDDEN DEATH WILL, IN VIEW OF HIS

LABOR PARTY'S LACK OF EXPERIENCED LEADERS, WEAKEN THE GOVERN
MENT'S ABILITY TO DEAL WITH ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND LABOR AGITATION.

25X6F

THE ACCESSION OF DEPUTY PRIME

MINISTER HUGH WATT TO THE PRIME MINISTERSHIP RAISES THE POSSIBILITY

OF A LEADERSHIP STRUGGLE. PRESSURES WILL PROBABLY GROW FOR

REMOVING WATT AT THE PARTY CAUCUS NOW SET FOR NOVEMBER. DEFENSE

MINISTER FAULKNER APPEARS TO BE FRONT RUNNER SHOULD A MOVEMENT

AGAINST WATT GAIN MOMENTUM. ALTHOUGH THE OPPOSITION NATIONAL

PARTY NO DOUBT SEES ITS ELECTORAL PROSPECTS BRIGHTENED BY KRIRK'S

DATE:

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